

Administrator,

ORD had a productive meeting in RTP, NC with our executive leadership team earlier this week. It was David Dunlap's first leadership meeting and it provided an opportunity for him to meet the management team in ORD. I am looking forward to recognizing the outstanding achievements of staff and collaborators at our annual virtual awards ceremony this afternoon.

On October 23, Chris Robbins will introduce the EPA Research Website and [[HYPERLINK "https://cfpub.epa.gov/si/"](https://cfpub.epa.gov/si/)], a searchable catalog of all EPA's published research at the [[HYPERLINK "https://e-enterprisefortheenvironment.net/save-the-date-en2018-is-now-ee2018/"](https://e-enterprisefortheenvironment.net/save-the-date-en2018-is-now-ee2018/)] in Addison, TX. ORD is seeking feedback from states on the content and accessibility of the information to best meet state needs.

Hot issues

Call with City of Greensboro and follow-up regarding PFAS

ORD participated in a call in September with representatives from the City of Greensboro, NC and staff from the Water Resources Department. In 2014, the city detected PFAS in their local watershed and began a full watershed investigation. Historically, there have been a few locations where aqueous film-forming foam from firefighting was discharged to the environment and subsequently entered the city's watershed. The purpose of the call was for the city to provide an overview of their investigation, monitoring efforts, and drinking water treatment approaches for PFAS and to discuss opportunities for partnership and technical support from EPA. ORD provided a summary of EPA's on-going research for PFAS methods and treatment technologies. On October 12, ORD received follow-up communication from the City of Greensboro, including a summary of the call and next steps. ORD expressed interest in obtaining data from the monitoring program and wastewater samples from the city for future research.

State Support: Discussions with Ohio EPA on PFAS

On October 16, ORD met with staff from Ohio EPA to exchange information on work related to PFAS chemicals. Ohio EPA is willing to share their occurrence data on PFAS chemicals, which ORD may use for modeling purposes and potentially provide to OW if there is interest.

PFAS Detection, Evaluation, and Treatment Options for Small Water Systems

Over 1,300 people are registered for this ORD/OW small systems webinar on October 30. Speakers will include Ryan Albert from EPA's Office of Water, Lucas Martin from Minnesota public water systems, and Carel Vandermeiden from Cape Fear Public Utility Authority. They will discuss key EPA activities and state and local perspectives.

Lead in Drinking Water Concerns in Portland, OR

ORD received an email on October 6 from a citizen in Portland expressing concerns about lead in drinking water and, specifically, an increased risk of lead exposure due to street repairs and replacement of service lines. The citizen had also previously contacted the Portland Water Bureau. ORD is connecting the citizen with Region 10's Office of Water and Watersheds.

Upcoming Major Decisions and events

People, Prosperity and the Planet (P3) Request for Applications:

The 2019 People, Prosperity and the Planet (P3) RFA is anticipated for release in the next few weeks. The purpose of the RFA is to solicit proposals for innovative research projects and designs to compete for the first phase of the [[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/P3"](https://www.epa.gov/P3)]. Through this EPA program, teams of college students design environmental solutions that benefit people, promote prosperity and protect the planet and move us toward a sustainable future. Phase I is a competition for one-year grants of up to \$25,000 to test, research, and develop innovative scientific projects or engineering designs that promote sustainability.